



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 12/29/1999

GAIN Report #E29135

European Union

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

Metric Labeling

1999

Approved by:

Office of Agricultural Affairs

U.S. Mission to the EU

Prepared by:

Gerda Vandercammen

Report Highlights:

Metric and imperial units on the same label will continue to be allowed until December 31, 2009.

Includes PSD changes: No

Includes Trade Matrix: No

Unscheduled Report

Brussels[BE2], E2

The use of both metric and imperial units on the same label now will continue to be allowed until December 31, 2009 for products sold in the European Union. Council Directive 80/181/EEC would have abolished dual labeling in metric and imperial units after 31 December 1999. However, just before the deadline, the European Parliament and Council voted to postpone the December 1999 deadline by 10 years. The publication of the adopted text in the Official Journal is expected in the first months of the year 2000.